मेरे गृह जिला ढेंकानाल के गँदिया थाना के बिरिखुंटी गांव में NREGA का काम ट्रैक्टर में किया जा रहा था, मशीन में किया जा रहा था। ...(**समय की घंटी**)... वही ट्रेक्टर चढ़ाके मार दिया गया।...(व्यवधान)... अतः मैं इस मामले की सी.बी.आई. से जांच की मांग करता हूं।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: सुश्री मैबल रिबैलो, आप बैठ जाइए। ...(**व्यवधान**)... हो गया, हो गया। Shrimati Kanimozhi. ...(**व्यवधान**)... अब हो गया। ...(**व्यवधान**)... Mike is not working. आप बैठ जाइए।

सुश्री सुशीला तिरिया (उड़ीसा): सर, मैं अपने आपको इससे सम्बद्ध करती हूं।

श्री उपसभापति: Nothing will go on record. आप बैठ जाइए। Shrimati Kanimozhi.

Plight of Indian workers in Jeddah

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Sir. I would like to bring to the notice of this House the plight of 400 Indian workers stranded in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. As we all know, there are workers who have been taken from India, from different States of the country to other countries and these workers actually have to sell their last assets to pay the money to the agents and go there, and when they go there, they find that the promised jobs are not given. Now, because of recession, a lot of them have been thrown out of jobs. So, over 400 workers are now stranded in Jeddah and they are living under the bridges. There are a lot of women among them. They have no money to even buy food. They have been under this bridge for nearly over a month and they have tried to approach the Embassy and they have not got much response or any help from them also. The Ministry has actually said that there is a fund called the Indian Welfare Workers Fund. This fund can be used to provide them with food and send them back. This kind of help also has not been given to them. There has been actually no help from the side of the High Commission. We should think of actually putting up redressel centres like many other countries do for their own workers. When our Indian workers approach the Embassy for help, actually no officer or no organisation or anything is there to really reach out to these people to help them. That has to be taken care of and these 400 workers have to be sent back. We have to take action to help them out.

ALL HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we associate ourselves with this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Kerala): Sir, everybody associated with this. The Minister can react to this. Why can't he react? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Prof. Kurien,...

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I understand the magnitude of the problem, particularly the workers who are stuck there. My attention has been drawn to this situation. We will certainly get in touch with the Embassy and see that adequate arrangements are made.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we will take up the Discussion on the working of Ministry of External Affairs. Shri Ashwani Kumar to raise the discussion on the working of the Ministry. Now, we will adjourn for lunch only after Mr. Ashwani Kumar's speech concludes.